

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00
CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 IGA-02 ACDA-10 OMB-01
TRSE-00 CU-04 MC-02 /088 W
-----122351Z 014794 /67

O 122145Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 512
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CHMN USDEL JBWC RIO DE JANEIRO IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 1958

MONTEVIDEO PASS TO USAF VICE CHIEF GEN: MCBRIDE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MASS, SHUM, BR, PFOR
SUBJ: REACTION TO BRAZILIAN RENUNCIATION OF MUTUAL DEFENSE
ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT OF 1952

REF: A. BRASILIA 1908 B. BRASILIA 1736 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. BRAZILIAN PRESS MARCH 12 GAVE MAJOR PLAY TO
DENUNCIATION OF THE MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH USG
CARRYING THOROUGH BUT AT TIMES CONTRADICTORY REPORTS ON BACK-
GROUND OF EVENTS, HISTORY OF DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH SOME
ANALYSIS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT. POLITICIANS AND POLITICAL ANALYSTS
HAVE GENERALLY SEEN DENUNCIATION AS A NATURAL FOLLOW-ON TO GOB RE-
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JECTION OF CREDIT LAST WEEK, ALTHOUGH SOME MDB LEADERS HAVE
BEEN LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC IN THEIR ENDORSEMENT OF GOB
DECISION. ESTADO ANALYSIS SEES DECISION AS ESSENTIALLY
A PRESIDENTIAL ONE, MADE VIRTUALLY ALONE, BUT WITH PRESIDENT
REPORTED-
LY HOPEFUL OTHER FORMS OF U.S. ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, AND
POLITICAL COOPERATION STILL POSSIBLE. IN CAREFUL COMMENT TO

PRESS, RANKING BRAZILIAN REPRESENTATIVE ON JBUSMC HAS INDICATED THAT COMMISSION HAS FUNCTIONS BEYOND ADMINISTRATION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE. PRESS INDICATEEAGOVERNMENT WILL BE ISSUING A WHITE PAPER ON DENUNCIATION SIMILAR TO THEIR RECENT EFFORT ON NUCLEAR ACCORD. GENERALLY, PRESS TREATMENT OF DENUNCIATION, WHILE EXTENSIVE, WAS MORE MATTER OF FACT AND LESS SENSATIONALIST THAN TREATMENT OF BRAZIL'S MARCH 5 REFUSAL OF US MILITARY AID. END SUMMARY.

2. BRAZILIAN PRESS MARCH 12 HEADLINED BRAZIL'S DENUNCIATION OF THE MUTUAL DEFENSE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S., PUBLISHING BOTH THE BRAZILIAN NOTE OF NOTIFICATION (REFTEL A) AND THE EMBASSY'S BRIEF ORAL PRESS STATEMENT, ACCOMPANIED BY EXTENSIVE BACKGROUNDEES, ANALYSES, AND SOME EDITORIAL COMMENT. POLITICAL REACTION GENERALLY NOTED THE DENUNCIATION WAS A NATURAL FOLLOW-ON TO GOB'S REJECTION OF CREDITS LAST WEEK (REFTEL B). PRESS INDICATED THAT THE ACCORD WILL STILL BE IN EFFECT FOR ONE YEAR AS PHASE OUT IS IMPLEMENTED, AND DISCUSSED HISTORY OF ACCORD AND TYPES OF MUTUAL DEFENSE COOPERATION THAT WILL NO LONGER BE POSSIBLE, EMPHASIZING TRAINING AND MATERIAL ACQUISITIONS.

3. PLANALTO PRESS SPOKESMAN CAMARGO IS REPORTED AS STATING THAT GEISEL DECIDED TO DENOUNCE THE AGREEMENT ON THE EVENING OF MARCH 10 AND SIGNED THE APPROPRIATE ORDERS. PRESS CLAIMS THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL PUBLISH A WHITE PAPER SIMILAR TO ITS DOCUMENT ON THE NUCLEAR ACCORD ABOUT ITS RENUNCIATION OF THE 1952 MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT. GOVERNMENT SOURCES HAVE INDICATED THAT THE DOCUMENT WILL BE PREPARED BY THE MINISTRY OF THE ARMY, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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THE DOCUMENT IS EXPECTED TO DETAIL BRAZIL'S INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY TO MANUFACTURE ITS OWN MILITARY EQUIPMENT. APPARENTLY DRAWING ON MILITARY SOURCES, PRESS IS ALSO SPECULATING ABOUT THE FUTURE STATUS OF JBUSMC, JBUSDC AND THE BRAZILIAN MILITARY PURCHASING COMMISSION IN WASHINGTON, CLAIMING THAT SOME OR ALL OF THEM MAY BE DEACTIVATED. BRAZILIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, HOWEVER HAS DENIED TO BRAZILIAN JOURNALISTS ALLEGATIONS THAT ITS MILITARY ATTACHES HAVE BEEN CALLED BACK TO BRAZIL. SIMILARLY, SEVERAL PAPERS CARRIED REPORTS THAT DENUNCIATION WOULD NOT REQUIRE RECALL OF SOME 3,000 (SIC) BRAZILIAN MILITARY ALLEGEDLY NOW IN COURSES IN THE U.S. AND PANAMA.

4. SPEAKING IN SAO PAULO AT AN INDUSTRIAL OPENING PRESIDENT GEISEL, IN WHAT PRESS SAW AS REFERENCE TO DENUNCIATION, SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS "WITH GOOD INTENTION, THE COOPERATION THAT COMES TO US FROM OUTSIDE IN THE FORM OF CAPITAL AND DEVELOPMENT TECHNOLOGY, BUT IT IS TRUE THAT ALL OF THIS IS ONLY VALID, IF IT IS GOING TO BENEFIT THE NATION AND RESPECT ITS SOVEREIGNTY. IT IS IN

THIS POINT OF VIEW THAT THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT ARE UNITED." SPEAKING ON THE SAME OCCASION SAO PAULO GOVERNOR PAULO EGIDIO MARTINS CLASSIFIED THE DENUNCIATION AS THE OPENING OF A "NEW ERA OF HISTORY" FOR BRAZIL. LOCAL OFFICIAL QUOTED GEISEL AS SAYING PRIVATELY AFTER CEREMONIES THAT DENUNCIATION WOULD NOT HAVE AN IMPACT IN THE DIPLOMATIC, CULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN BRAZIL AND THE U.S.

5. PRESS NOTED THAT CHIEF USDEL JBUSMC, ADMIRAL CALLAGHAN, MET WITH HIS BRAZILIAN JBUSMC COUNTERPART ADMIRAL JANNUZZI MARCH 11 (SEPTEL). JANNUZZI TOLD PRESS HE HAD NOTHING TO SAY BECAUSE HE HAD ONLY KNOWN OF THE DENUNCIATION FROM RADIO NEWS. HE EXPLAINED THE FUNCTION OF THE COMMISSION AND SAID THE SUPPLY OF MATERIEL AND EQUIPMENT, AND TRAINING WERE COORDINATED BETWEEN THE INDIVIDUAL BRAZILIAN AND AMERICAN ARMED FORCES. JANNUZZI SAID THE COMMISSION ALSO OVERSEES OTHER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS THE EXCHANGE OF MILITARY INFORMATION, WHICH HE WAS NOT SURE

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WERE ENCOMPASSED BY THE DENUNCIATION. HE EXPLAINED THAT JBUSMC BEGAN IN 1943 DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR TO PERFORM A LIAISON FUNCTION BETWEEN BRAZILIAN AND AMERICAN FORCES. JANNUZZI ASSURED THAT MANEUVERS SUCH AS UNITAS WERE NOT AFFECTED BY THE 1952 MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT.

6. CORREIO BRAZILIENSE AND JORNAL DO BRASIL ALSO SPECULATED THAT THE PRIMARY CONSEQUENCE OF THE RENUNCIATION WOULD BE THE DEACTIVATION OF JBUSMC. CITING MILITARY SOURCES, CORREIO CLAIMED THAT OTHER SEPERATE SERVICE COMMISSIONS WOULD CONTINUE THEIR MISSIONS IN THE U.S. AND IN BRAZIL, BUT IMPLIED THAT THE JOINT COMMISSION WOULD NO LONGER RESIDE IN RIO. PRESS, HOWEVER, HAS NOT REPORTED ANY OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM THE GOB ABOUT ITS CONCEPT OF THE ONGOING STATUS OF JBUSMC.

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USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ IMMEDIATE

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MONTEVIDEO PASS TO USAF VICE CHIEF GEN: MCBRIDE

7. CLOVIS ROSSI IN ANALYTICAL PIECE FOR O ESTADO AFFIRMS THAT DENUNCIATION OF MILITARY ACCORD IS IN PART AN ANTICIPATORY REPLY TO INEVITABLE RELEASE OF HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT AND WAS A PERSONAL DECISION OF GEISEL TAKEN IN CONTEXT OF EXTREMELY CENTRALIZED PROCESS OF DECISION-MAKING, WHICH ACCENTUATES IMPORTANCE OF IMPONDERABLE PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS AND MAKES POSSIBLE NEW AND SURPRISING MEASURES. GOB, SAYS ROSSI, PLANS TO MAINTAIN SITUATION UNDER CONTROL, AND BRAZIL'S BASIC PRO-WESTERN ALIGNMENT AND OPENNESS TO FOREIGN CAPITAL WILL NOT CHANGE. BUT SEVERE PRIVATE CRITICISM OF U.S. NOW PREVALENT IN HIGH CIRCLES IS BOUND TO HAVE SOME INFLUENCE ON MID-LEVELS OF MILITARY. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHAT THE RESULT WILL BE, PARTICULARLY AMONG MORE IDEOLOGICALLY-ORIENTED NATIONALIST CIRCLE IN ARMED FORCES. FOR THE MOMENT, UNCLASSIFIED

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ROSSI CONCLUDES, ANY NEW GOB STEPS WILL REMAIN ON STRICTLY MILITARY OR POLITICAL PLANE, POSSIBLE OPTIONS INCLUDING 1) DENUNCIATION OF SPECIFIC TREATIES (TRANSPORT, AVIATION, COMMUNICATIONS) NOT EMBRACED BY THE ACCORD JUST TERMINATED; 2) RECALL OF BRAZILIAN MILITARY MISSION TO U.S. AND/OR AMBASSADOR PINHEIRO; 3) STIFF NOTE OF PROTEST; OR 4) PNG ACTION AGAINST A U.S. DIPLOMAT OTHER THAN AMBASSADOR, AS AN INDIRECT SLAP AT LATTER.

8. IN CONGRESS, SUPPORT FOR DENUNCIATION WAS WIDESPREAD AND GENERALLY --BUT NOT UNQUALIFIEDLY STRONG. ARENA CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP PETRONIO PORTELLA SAID THE RUPTURE OF THE ACCORD WAS "A NATURAL OCCURENCE FOLLOWING FROM PRECEDING FACTS." PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY MARCO MACIEL THOUGHT THE ATTITUDE OF THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT CORRECT, AS A SOVEREIGN NATION WHICH DID NOT HAVE TO ACCEPT UNJUSTIFIED INTERFERENCE IN ITS INTERNAL PROBLEMS. ARENA LEADER IN THE HOUSE, BONAFACIO

CALLED THE RENUNCIATION A ROUTINE OCCURENCE IN LIGHT OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED BEFORE AND "WITHOUT MAJOR CONSEQUENCES." VICE LEADER OF ARENA IN THE ASSEMBLY, JOAO LINHARES SAID THE DEVELOPMENT WAS INEVITABLE, NOTING THAT THE BRAZILIANS HAD HOPED THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE POLITICAL UNDERSTANDING, BUT THAT BRAZIL'S ATTITUDE COULD BE NONE OTHER IN THE FACE OF THE AMERICAN LEGISLATION.

9. AMONG OPPOSITION LEADERS, MDB SENATE LEADER FRANCO MONTORO EMPHASIZED THAT "THE GOVERNMENT IS SPEAKING IN THE NAME OF BRAZIL AND WITH THE SUPPORT OF ALL BRAZILIANS. THE MEASURE IS ONLY AT DEVELOPMENT BASED UPON THE POSITION EARLIER ADOPTED. WE HAVE GREAT APPRECIATION FOR THE U.S., BUT WE MUST PRESERVE OUR INDEPENDENCE." ASSEMBLY MDB LEADER ALENCAR FURTADO LAMENTED "THE EXISTENCE OF TENSIONS BETWEEN FRIENDLY COUNTRIES. CHIEFLY, THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO PREJUDICE THEIR COMMON RELATIONS AND THEIR COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC INTERCHANGE OR INTERESTS." HE FURTHER IMPLIED THAT THE GOVERNMENT (IN ITS HIGHER ECHELONS) HAD NOT SUFFICIENTLY JUSTIFIED ITS ACTIONS. MDB DEPUTY FREITES NOBRE SAID THAT THE ONLY NOVELTY CONTAINED IN THE OFFICIAL GOB NOTE WAS THE UNCLASSIFIED

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REFERENCE TO THE FACT THAT THE USG HAS MODIFIED ITS LEGISLATION, A POINT ITAMARATY HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY SPOKEN TO. NOBRE ADDED THAT THE RENUNCIATION ONLY FORMALIZED THE DE FACTO SITUATION.

10. PRESS NOTES COMMENTS BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT SOURCES THAT THE GOF IS STUDYING WITH GREAT ATTENTION THE SITUATION CREATED BY THE RENUNCIATION AND "HAS DECIDED TO AUGMENT ITS COOPERATION WITH THIS COUNTRY IN ORDER TO EQUIP ITS ARMY. FRENCH CURRENTLY ARE SECOND TO US AS A FOREIGN SOURCE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT FOR THE GOB.

11. IN FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL ENTITLED "EXORBITANCE DENOUNCED," RIO'S O GLOBO ASSERTS THAT TREATIES ARE WORTHLESS IF THEIR TERMS CAN BE CHANGED UNILATERALLY BY THE LAWS OF ONE OF THE PARTIES. IF CHANGES ARE IMPOSED RATHER THAN ACHIEVED BY NEGOTIATIONS OF THE TWO PARTIES, THEN THE INJURED PARTY IS JUSTIFIED IN DENOUNCING THE AGREEMENT, AS BRAZIL HAS DONE. DENYING THAT THE DENUNCIATION IS ANOTHER STEP IN THE DETERIORATION OF RELATIONS, O GLOBO CLAIMS THAT IT WILL PLACE BILATERAL TIES ON A LEVEL OF GREATER DIGNITY AND MATURITY, ENHANCING DIALOGUE AND CREATIVITY IN BILATERAL COOPERATION. TAKING NOTE OF RECENT TERRORIST ACTIONS IN WASHINGTON O GLOBO CHARGED THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION APPEARS TO HAVE INTERNAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM THAT IT SHOULD DIRECT ITS LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO CORRECT. RIO'S JORNAL DO BRASIL, IN MAJOR EDITORIAL ENTITLED "ANTI-HISTORY," TAKES LESS POSITIVE VIEW OF IMPLICATIONS OF THE DENUNCIATION. JORNAL SEES WORSENING OF US-BRAZIL DISPUTE AS

THREATENING BRAZIL'S BASIC GOAL OF TECHNOLOGICAL MODERNIZATION
FUNDAMENTAL TO HER DEVELOPMENT. JORNAL SEES NO ALTERNATIVE OUT-
SIDE OF WESTERN WORLD FOR KNOWLEDGE AND RESOURCES OF QUALITY AND
QUANTITY BRAZIL NEEDS AT HER STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT. EDITORIAL
TRACES ISSUES OF TRADE, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, HUMAN RIGHTS AND
NOW MILITARY ASSISTANCE CONTRIBUTING TO ESCALATING DISPUTE,
AND NOTES THAT EVENTS OF RECENT WEEKS DEMAND A NEW ATTITUDE
OF BOTH COUNTRIES, FOR "THE STORM CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE."
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JORNAL SEES THE SITUATION AS REQUIRING THE ELIMINATION OF
EMOTIONS, A DELIBERATE LOWERING OF TENSION, AND THE
ACHIEVEMENT OF A TRUCE THAT WILL YIELD AN ATTITUDE CONDUCTIVE
TO CREATIVE SOLUTIONS. OTHERWISE, JORNAL CONCLUDES, UNCONTROLLED
ELEMENTS COULD PUSH THE TWO COUNTRIES INTO SCENARIOS "IN
WHICH BRAZIL'S INTROSPECTION WILL APPEAR AS A WAVE CARRYING US
INTO ANTI-HISTORY."
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY TERMINATION, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, HUMAN RIGHTS, REPORTS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770086-0558
Format: TEL
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BRASILIA 1908
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3128196
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REACTION TO BRAZILIAN RENUNCIATION OF MUTUAL DEFENSE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT OF 1952
TAGS: MASS, SHUM, PFOR, BR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3b9b24b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009